AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A wireless device, comprising:

a viewing screen;

a processor;

a memory device that stores short messaging service (SMS) electronic messages that have been transmitted or received by the wireless device; and

a message software interface module executed by the processor that (a) displays a current SMS electronic message on the viewing screen, (b) automatically filters each of the SMS electronic messages stored in the memory device to identify one or more select SMS messages meeting a pre-set criteria, and (c) automatically displays the one or more select SMS messages on the viewing screen along with the current SMS electronic message, wherein the one or more select SMS messages and the current SMS electronic message are displayed as a single thread on the viewing screen;

wherein after the current SMS electronic message is displayed on the viewing screen, the message software interface module is configured to perform the operations of (b) automatically filtering each of the SMS electronic messages stored in the memory device and (c) automatically displaying the one or more select SMS messages without requiring user input.

2. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 1, wherein the pre-set criteria for the one or more select SMS messages is configurable by a user of the wireless device.

3. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 1, wherein the pre-set criteria is an address matching condition between an outside address of the one or more select SMS messages and an outside address of the current SMS electronic message.

4. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 1, wherein the pre-set criteria is a time-frame selected by a user of the wireless device during which the one or more select SMS messages were transmitted or received by the wireless device.

5. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 1, wherein the pre-set criteria is a user-selected storage proximity range for the one or more select SMS messages in relation to the current SMS electronic message.

6. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 1, wherein the pre-set criteria includes (a) an outside address for the one or more select SMS messages that matches an outside address of the current SMS electronic message, and (b) a time-frame selected by a user of the wireless device during which the one or more select SMS messages were transmitted or received by the wireless device.

7. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 1, wherein the pre-set criteria includes (a) an outside address for the one or more select SMS messages that matches an outside address of the current SMS electronic message, and (b) a user-selected storage proximity range for the one or more select SMS messages in relation to the current SMS electronic message.

8. (Currently Amended) A wireless device, comprising:

a viewing screen;

a processor;

a memory device that stores short messaging service (SMS) electronic messages that have been transmitted or received by the wireless device, wherein each stored SMS electronic message includes indexing data; and

a message software interface module executed by the processor that (a) displays on the viewing screen a current SMS electronic message, (b) automatically locates one or more select SMS messages by filtering each SMS electronic message stored in the memory device to identify stored SMS electronic messages having indexing data that falls within a pre-set storage proximity range in relation to the current SMS electronic message, and (c) automatically displays the one or more select SMS electronic messages on the viewing screen along with the current SMS electronic message, wherein the one or more select SMS messages and the current electronic SMS message are displayed as a single message thread on the viewing screen;

wherein after the current SMS electronic message is displayed on the viewing screen, the message software interface module is configured to perform the operations of (b) automatically locating one or more select SMS messages and (c) automatically displaying the one or more select SMS electronic messages without requiring user input.

9. (Original) The wireless device of claim 8, wherein the pre-set storage proximity range is configurable by a user of the wireless device.

10. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 8, wherein the indexing data comprises ordinal values indicating the sequence in which the stored SMS electronic messages were transmitted or received by the wireless device.

11. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 8, wherein the indexing data comprises an electronic time-stamp indicating the date the stored SMS electronic messages were transmitted or received by the wireless device.

12. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 11, wherein the time-stamp further indicates the time the stored SMS electronic messages were transmitted or received by the wireless device.

13. (Currently Amended) A wireless device, comprising:

a viewing screen;

a processor;

a memory device that stores short messaging service (SMS) electronic messages that have been transmitted or received by the wireless device, wherein each SMS electronic message includes an outside address; and

a message software interface module executed by the processor that (a) displays on the viewing screen a current SMS electronic message having a current outside address, (b) automatically locates one or more select SMS electronic messages by comparing the outside address of each SMS electronic message stored in the memory device with the current outside address, and (c) automatically displays the one or more select SMS electronic messages on the viewing screen along with the current SMS electronic

message, wherein the one or more select SMS messages and the current SMS electronic message are displayed as a single message thread on the viewing screen;

wherein after the current SMS electronic message is displayed on the viewing screen, the message software interface module is configured to perform the operations of (b) automatically locating one or more select SMS messages and (c) automatically displaying the one or more select SMS messages without requiring user input.

14. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 13, wherein:

each SMS electronic message stored in the memory device includes a sender address and a receiver address, one of which is the outside address; and

the current SMS electronic message includes a current sender address and a current receiver address, one of which is the current outside address.

15. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 14, wherein:

the message software interface module also determines whether the current SMS electronic message is of an incoming type or an outgoing type;

if the current SMS electronic message is of the incoming type, then the message software interface module locates the one or more select SMS electronic messages by comparing the current sender address with both the receiver and sender addresses of each SMS electronic message stored in the memory device; and

if the current SMS electronic message is of the outgoing type, then the software interface module locates the one or more select SMS electronic messages by comparing the current receiver address with both the receiver and sender addresses of each SMS electronic message stored in the memory device.

16. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 14, wherein:

the message software interface module also determines (a) whether the current SMS electronic message is of an incoming type or an outgoing type, and (b) whether each stored SMS electronic message is of the incoming type or the outgoing type;

if the current SMS electronic message is of the incoming type, then the message software interface module locates the one or more select SMS electronic messages by comparing the current sender address with (a) the sender address of each stored SMS electronic message that is of the incoming type, and (b) the receiver address of each stored SMS electronic message that is of the outgoing type; and

if the current SMS electronic message is of the outgoing type, then the message software interface module locates the one or more select SMS electronic messages by comparing the current receiver address with (a) the sender address of each stored SMS electronic message that is of the incoming type, and (b) the receiver address of each stored SMS electronic message that is of the outgoing type.

17. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 13, wherein each SMS electronic message stored in the memory device further includes indexing data, and the indexing data is used by the message software interface module to further limit the select SMS electronic messages to SMS electronic messages having indexing data falling within a pre-set storage proximity range.

18. (Original) The wireless device of claim 17, wherein the pre-set storage proximity range is configurable by a user of the wireless device.

19. (Original) The wireless device of claim 17, wherein the indexing data comprises ordinal values indicating the sequence in which the stored SMS electronic messages were transmitted or received by the wireless device.

20. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 17, wherein the indexing data comprises an electronic time-stamp indicating the date the stored SMS electronic messages were transmitted or received by the wireless device.

21. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 20, wherein the time-stamp further indicates the time the stored SMS electronic messages were transmitted or received by the wireless device.

22. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 13, wherein the message software interface module further limits the one or more select SMS electronic messages by comparing one or more keywords selected by a user of the wireless device with each SMS electronic message stored in the memory device.

23. (Currently Amended) The wireless device of claim 13, wherein the message software interface module locates the one or more select SMS electronic messages by instead comparing one or more keywords selected by a user with each SMS electronic message stored in the memory device.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying a current short messaging service (SMS) electronic message on a wireless device in context with one or more of a plurality of stored SMS electronic messages, comprising the steps of:

in response to displaying the current SMS electronic message on the wireless device, automatically filtering each stored SMS electronic message to identify one or more select SMS messages meeting a pre-set criteria; and

automatically displaying the current SMS electronic message on a viewing screen along with the one or more select SMS messages meeting the pre-set criteria, wherein the one or more select SMS messages and the current SMS electronic message are displayed as a single thread;

wherein the steps of automatically filtering and automatically displaying are performed without requiring user input.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, wherein the pre-set criteria for the one or more select SMS messages is configurable by a user of the wireless device.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, wherein the pre-set criteria requires the one or more select SMS messages to each include an outside address that matches a current outside address of the current SMS electronic message.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, wherein the pre-set criteria requires the one or more select SMS messages to each have been transmitted or received within a time-frame selected by a user of the wireless device.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, wherein the pre-set criteria requires the one or more select SMS messages to each have been stored within a user-selected storage proximity range in relation to the current SMS electronic message.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, wherein the pre-set criteria requires the one or more select SMS messages to each (a) include an outside address that matches a current outside address of the current SMS electronic message, and (b) have been transmitted or received within a time-frame selected by a user.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, wherein the pre-set criteria requires the one or more select SMS messages to each (a) include an outside address that matches a current outside address of the current SMS electronic message, and (b) have been stored within a user-selected storage proximity range in relation to the current SMS electronic message.

31 (Currently Amended) A method for displaying a current short messaging service (SMS) electronic message on a wireless device in context with one or more of a plurality of stored SMS electronic messages, comprising the steps of:

automatically identifying indexing data for each stored SMS electronic message;

automatically identifying current indexing data for the current SMS electronic message;

automatically comparing the current indexing data with the indexing data for each stored SMS electronic message to identify stored SMS electronic messages having indexing data that falls within a pre-set storage proximity range from the current indexing data; and

automatically displaying the current SMS electronic message on a viewing screen along with each of the stored SMS electronic messages identified as having indexing data falling within the pre-set storage proximity range, wherein the identified SMS electronic messages and the current SMS electronic message are displayed as a single message thread on the viewing screen;

wherein the steps of automatically identifying indexing data, automatically identifying current indexing data, automatically comparing, and automatically displaying are performed without requiring user input.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the pre-set storage proximity range is configurable by a user of the wireless device.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein the current indexing data and the indexing data for each stored SMS electronic message are ordinal values.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 33, wherein:

ordinal values are assigned when SMS electronic messages are stored; and

if the current SMS electronic message has not been stored, then it is assigned a next available ordinal value.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein the current indexing data and the indexing data for each stored SMS electronic message are time-stamps.

36. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying a current short messaging service (SMS) electronic message on a wireless device in context with one or more of a plurality of stored SMS electronic messages, comprising the steps of:

automatically identifying a current outside address for the current SMS electronic message;

automatically identifying an outside address for each stored SMS electronic message;

automatically comparing the current outside address with the outside address of each stored SMS electronic message; and

automatically displaying the current electronic SMS message on a viewing screen along with each of the stored SMS electronic messages in which the outside address matches the current outside address, wherein the identified SMS electronic messages and the current SMS electronic message are displayed as a single message thread on the viewing screen;

wherein the steps of automatically identifying a current outside address, automatically identifying an outside address, automatically comparing and automatically displaying are performed without requiring user input.

37. (Original) The method of claim 36, comprising the further step of:

displaying the current outside address on the viewing screen.

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36, wherein:

each stored SMS electronic message includes a sender address and a receiver address, one of which is the outside address; and

the current SMS electronic message includes a current sender address and a current receiver address, one of which is the current outside address.

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the step of comparing the current outside address with the outside address of each stored SMS electronic message is performed by a method comprising the steps of:

determining whether the current SMS electronic message is of an incoming type or an outgoing type;

if the current SMS electronic message is of the incoming type, then comparing the current sender address with both the receiver and sender addresses of each stored SMS electronic message; and

if the current SMS electronic message is of the outgoing type, then comparing the current receiver address with both the receiver and sender addresses of each stored SMS electronic message.

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the step of comparing the current outside address with the outside address of each stored SMS electronic message is performed by a method comprising the steps of:

determining whether the current SMS electronic message is of an incoming type or an outgoing type;

determining whether each stored SMS electronic message is of the incoming type or the outgoing type;

if the current SMS electronic message is of the incoming type, then comparing the current sender address with (a) the sender address of each stored SMS electronic message that is of the incoming type, and (b) the receiver address of each stored SMS electronic message that is of the outgoing type; and

if the current SMS electronic message is of the outgoing type, then comparing the current receiver address with (a) the sender address of each stored SMS electronic message that is of the incoming type, and (b) the receiver address of each stored SMS electronic message that is of the outgoing type.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36, comprising the further step of:

appending to a related message list each of the stored SMS electronic messages in which the outside address matches the current outside address.

42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36, comprising the further steps of:

identifying indexing data for each stored SMS electronic message;

identifying current indexing data for the current SMS electronic message;

comparing the current indexing data with the indexing data for each stored SMS electronic message to identify stored SMS electronic messages having indexing data that falls within a pre-set storage proximity range from the current indexing data; and

further limiting the stored SMS electronic messages that are displayed on the viewing screen to those having indexing data that falls within the pre-set storage proximity range.

43. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein the pre-set storage proximity range is configurable by the user of the wireless device.

44. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42, wherein the current indexing data and the indexing data for each stored SMS electronic message are ordinal values.

45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42, wherein the current indexing data and the indexing data for each stored SMS electronic message are time-stamps.

46. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying a current short messaging service (SMS) electronic message on a wireless device in context with one or more of a plurality of stored SMS electronic messages, comprising the steps of:

setting a SMS electronic message being accessed by a user as the current SMS electronic message;

determining if the current SMS electronic message is of an incoming type or an outgoing type;

if the current SMS electronic message is of the incoming type, then identifying a current sender address for the current SMS electronic message;

if the current SMS electronic message is of the outgoing type, then identifying a current receiver address for the current SMS electronic message;

identifying current indexing data for the current SMS electronic message;

identifying a sender address and a receiver address for each stored SMS electronic message;

determining whether each stored SMS electronic message is of the incoming type or the outgoing type;

if the current SMS electronic message is of the incoming type, then automatically identifying stored SMS electronic messages having a matching address by comparing the current sender address with (a) the sender address of each stored SMS electronic message that is of the incoming type, and (b) the receiver address of each stored SMS electronic message that is of the outgoing type;

if the current SMS electronic message is of the outgoing type, then automatically identifying stored SMS electronic messages having a matching address by comparing the current receiver address with (a) the sender address of each stored SMS electronic message that is of the incoming type, and (b) the receiver address of each stored SMS electronic message that is of the outgoing type;

automatically identifying indexing data for each stored SMS electronic message having a matching address;

automatically comparing the current indexing data with the indexing data for each stored SMS electronic message having a matching address to identify stored SMS electronic messages having indexing data that falls within a pre-set storage proximity range from the current indexing data;

automatically appending each stored SMS electronic message to a related message list if the stored SMS electronic message (a) has a matching address, and (b) has indexing data that falls within the pre-set storage proximity range from the current indexing data; and

displaying the current SMS electronic message on a viewing screen along with each SMS electronic message appended to the related message list, wherein the appended SMS electronic messages and the current SMS electronic message are displayed as a single message thread on the viewing screen;

wherein the steps of automatically identifying, automatically comparing and automatically appending are performed without requiring user input.